



TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING May 12, 2015 Minutes

Members Present:

Howard Pizzo, Karen Mojica

Excused: Dennis Fedewa

Staff Members Present:

Jeff Anderson

Mark Graham

Guests Present: Dorothy Maxwell

1. Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. Public Comment:

Treasurer Pizzo introduced Dorothy Maxwell from the Eaton County Road Commission.

3. Set/Adjust Agenda:

Trustee Mojica made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Treasurer Pizzo supported this motion. Motion carried.

4. Approval of February 3, 2015 Minutes:

Trustee Mojica made a motion to approve the February 3, 2015 minutes as presented. Treasurer Pizzo supported this motion. Motion carried.

5. CATA Update:

The EATRAN Ridership Report was discussed. It was noted that the transfers had gone down for April. Treasurer Pizzo stated it wasn't clear how the transfers are being in relation to job related trips. Jeff Anderson asked if this report was strictly Delta Township. Treasurer Pizzo stated that it included all of Eaton County, as there is a route from Charlotte to the Lansing Mall. Trustee Mojica stated that at the last meeting a plotting map would be developed showing the areas which are experiencing the most Redi-Ride activity. Jeff Anderson responded that we need to collect 9 to 12 months of data to show the activity. Trustee Mojica asked if Ed Reed had been in contact with local business sharing the information regarding the new CATA service. Mark Graham responded that Ed Reed has been in touch with the local businesses. Trustee Mojica stated that the ultimate question is how many people are getting to work by using CATA.

6. New Business:

Community Development – Mark Graham

2015 Local Road Resurfacing Projects:

Mark Graham provided a list of five road resurfacing projects to be discussed. As you are aware the Eaton County Road Commission millage passed in November, 2014. This will be the first year for the new Local Road Resurfacing Program. Eaton County Road Commission supplied us with a list and gave us an opportunity to review the proposed projects for Delta Township. We reviewed the list of proposed projects with the Township Engineer and concur with the proposed projects. There are approximately nine miles of roads in the Township that the Road Commission is planning to in 2015. The Road Commission website has a list of proposed projects within the County. We put together a list specific to Delta Township which was included in the agenda packet. This list defines the location of the roads that are to be repaired. Mr. Graham noted that in discussions with Blair, the list did not include any gravel road repair this year, even though the millage did specify that funds would be used to repair gravel roads. Specifically, because the asphalt prices are low and the County wanted to get as much done as possible with the low rates. Mr. Graham indicated that the 2015 budget includes two dustlayer applications which are budgeted at \$10,000. We do have a cushion to work with, applying the first application around Memorial Day and the second around July 4. In the past, Township Manager Watkins had a third application applied if it was a dry summer. Jeff Anderson asked that Mr. Graham talk with them since Memorial Day is getting close and residents start calling the Township regarding road projects. Mr. Graham stated Blair has also done parks applications in the past and provided him with an estimate. They changed from gallons to miles and supplied us with an estimate for Delta Township. The guesstimate based on 14 cents per gallon for the dustlayer would cost us approximately \$1,000 for all of the parks. Jeff Anderson asked Mark Graham to send the information to Marcus Kirkpatrick. Treasurer Pizzo asked for clarification regarding the dustlayer application. Jeff Anderson responded that normally we have done two dustlayer applications and through the millage, the first two applications will be paid, if there is a third application, it would be taken out of the Township's budget. We may need to do the first application out of the budget if the County will not be able to apply the dustlayer by Memorial Day, as residents will begin to contact the Township regarding the application. Treasurer Pizzo asked if there were going to be any problems with the gravel roads in the Township. Mark Graham responded that he did not think so, as routine grading would be done. The millage called for gravel roads to have gravel added and crowned over the twelve year period. Mr. Graham indicated that he did concur with Blair to focus on paved roads with the asphalt being so cheap. Jeff Anderson stated that he attended the Eaton County Road Commission meeting and it was communicated that they are beginning to focus on the 2016 road resurfacing program. He suggested to Mark Graham that they meet and put together a "wish list" for road projects to give to them by the end of the summer, as the Road Commission plans to develop a project schedule for 2016 by then. Treasurer Pizzo asked for clarification of the map, specifically the ratings. Mr. Graham indicated that in the one to four rating of poor conditions, one is the poorest. Trustee Mojica asked when is the list of projects scheduled to begin. Mark Graham responded that in order not to conflict with construction projects, the resurfacing projects would be completed by the end of the summer.

That way they would get the best price and complete the projects by the end of the summer. The more they tie the contractor down, the higher the price.

St. Joseph Widening Project, Canal to Marketplace:

Mark Graham shared this information at the February 3, 2015 meeting. We spent time discussing how to get pedestrians and bicyclists over the I-96 bridge and did not come up with any answers. The project does not include any work to the bridge. The bridge will be closed for a few months and there will be detours. Residents have been notified regarding the project and the removal of trees. Many of the trees were in the road right of way, so the Road Commission had the authority to take the trees down. The project is on schedule and will begin in early June, after school recesses.

2016 St. Joseph Resurfacing Project:

Mark Graham stated that he included this on the list even though it is scheduled for next year. This was included on the list, since he assumed that residents will be contacting the Township asking why St. Joseph has not been completely resurfaced. Delta Township's match for the project is \$108,000 and the project will cost \$700,000.

Request for Speed Limit Signs for Michigan Avenue, Canal to Creyts Road:

Lt. Wriggelsworth contacted the Eaton County Road Commission regarding the lack of posted speed limit signs on Michigan Avenue between Creyts to Canal Roads. His deputies are concerned because there is a large discrepancy of speeds some of which are up to 60 miles per hour. Lt. Wriggelsworth was not initially satisfied with the response from the Road Commission. In conversations with Blair, it was suggested to work with the State Police regarding a Speed Study for this area. Contact will be made with Al Avery of MSP. Trustee Mojica asked what is the speed that the police are imposing to issue tickets. Mark Graham responded that most likely the speed limit would be 45 miles per hour. Jeff Anderson asked why a speed study was not done when the road was conducted. Blair indicated that signs would not be put up without a Speed Study.

Dedication of Commercial Drive to the Eaton County Road Commission:

This short strip of road was constructed off of West Saginaw Highway several years ago by private parties to give access to Bob Evans and the Cracker Barrel Restaurant. It was extended for the gas station and then extended again to accommodate Dunkin Donuts. The Eaton County Road Commission has stated it will not take jurisdiction over this road until several issues are addressed, specifically that the sewer drains are turned over to the Eaton County Drain Commission. Everything has been completed except for the sewer drains. The owners of the property are from out of state and we have been working with them over the past three months to get this done. Since they are responsible for the snow removal, hopefully, they will be willing to work with us. The road has been resurfaced and is in good shape.

Capital Improvements Program:

Mark Graham indicated that he had submitted a request for \$150,000 for Capital Improvement Funds on behalf of the Transportation Committee.

Other Projects:

Mark Graham also mentioned other projects going on in the Township. The replacement of traffic lights – St. Joseph and Creyts and sidewalk reconstruction has been completed. Next year, Snow Road and St. Joseph and the intersection of Snow Road and Michigan Avenue will be scheduled.

We are also preparing to receive bids on the sidewalk project on Canal Road for 800 feet and for 300 feet on Upton Road and there will be other sidewalk projects which the Board will be informed on. Also the Community Development Department has an intern, Seth, who will be walking the sidewalks in the Township noting any repairs or problems. We hope to combine areas four and five, which is west of the freeway.

Jeff Anderson also stated that the number one complaint regarding the lack of a sidewalk is on St. Joseph east of Creyts Road. Auto Owners owns this property and has indicated no plans to construct a sidewalk. We are working hard to inform them of the benefits of installing a sidewalk at this location.

7. Other Business

Trustee Mojica made a motion that Trustee Fedewa be excused from the meeting. Treasurer Pizzo seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

8. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.